



1772
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4

In re the application of:

Kazuhisa MATSUDA

Serial Number: 09/489,473

Group Art Unit: 1772

Filed: January 21, 2000

Examiner: Unknown

For: SUTURABLE ADHESION-PREVENTING MEMBRANE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. All of the documents are identified in a search report in a corresponding European application. One copy of each of the listed documents and a copy of the search report is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the last of (1) issuance of a first official action on the merits and (2) expiration of the three month period following

filing of the above-captioned application.

The undersigned also hereby states that documents FA-FE and DA were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Document UA, which is a family member of document FC as shown in the annex of the search report, is also a counterpart of Japanese Patent No. 2775115 described in the present application in the paragraph bridging pages 4 and 5.

WO 98/22157 A, the first publication listed in the search report, is not enclosed. However, please note that the publication is a patent family member of document FA as shown in the annex of the search report.

No explanation of the relevance of Documents UA, FA to FB, FD, FE and DA is believed to be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 because the documents are in the English language.

U.S. Patent Appln. S.N. 09/489,473
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

PATENT

Document FC is not in English. However, document UA, USP 5,201,745, is a counterpart of document FC as noted above.

Therefore, the concise explanation of the relevance of the cited documents required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) is believed to be satisfied.

No fee is required in connection with this statement.

Respectfully submitted,
KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK



Keiko Tanaka Kubovcik
Reg. No. 40,428

Atty. Case No. NISS-049
The Farragut Building
Suite 710
900 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: (202) 887-9023
Fax: (202) 887-9093
KTK/spb

Attachments: PTO-1449
7 Documents
European Search Report